

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1 wherein the thyroid hormone-lowering agent is~~ A method of increasing healing of a heart wound in a euthyroid adult mammal, comprising the step of administering to a first euthyroid adult mammal having a heart wound an amount of propylthiouracil effective to decrease a level of a T3 or T4 thyroid hormone relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in a second euthyroid adult mammal to whom the thyroid hormone-lowering agent has not been administered, whereby healing of a heart wound in the first euthyroid adult mammal is increased relative to healing of a heart wound in the second euthyroid adult mammal.

3-14. canceled

15. (currently amended) A method of increasing healing of a heart wound in a euthyroid adult C57Bl/6 mouse, comprising the step of administering to a first euthyroid adult C57Bl/6 mouse having a heart wound an amount of a thyroid hormone-lowering agent effective to decrease a level of a T3 or T4 thyroid hormone relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in a second euthyroid adult C57Bl/6 mouse to whom the thyroid hormone-lowering agent has not been administered, whereby healing of a heart wound in the first euthyroid adult C57Bl/6 mouse is increased relative to healing of a heart wound in the second euthyroid adult ~~The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second euthyroid adult mammals are C57Bl/6 mouse mice.~~

16. (currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 2 wherein the first and second euthyroid adult mammals are humans.

17. (currently amended) A method of increasing healing of a heart wound in a euthyroid adult mammal, comprising the step of administering to a first euthyroid adult mammal having a heart wound an amount of a thyroid hormone-lowering agent effective to decrease a level of a T3 or T4 thyroid hormone relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in a second euthyroid adult mammal to whom the thyroid hormone-lowering agent has not been administered, whereby healing of a heart wound in the first euthyroid adult mammal is increased relative to healing of a heart wound in the second euthyroid adult mammal. ~~The method of claim 1~~ wherein the increased healing in the first euthyroid adult mammal comprises re-epithelialization.

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A method of increasing healing of a heart wound in a euthyroid adult mammal, comprising the step of administering to a first euthyroid adult mammal having a heart wound an amount of a thyroid hormone-lowering agent effective to decrease a level of a T3 or T4 thyroid hormone relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in a second euthyroid adult mammal to whom the thyroid hormone-lowering agent has not been administered, whereby healing of a heart wound in the first euthyroid adult mammal is increased relative to healing of a heart wound in the second euthyroid adult mammal. ~~The method of claim 1~~ wherein the thyroid hormone lowering agent decreases T4 levels.

20-23. (canceled)

24. (currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 2 wherein the heart wound is an ischemic infarct.

25. (currently amended) A method of increasing healing of a heart wound in a euthyroid adult mammal, comprising the step of administering to a first euthyroid adult mammal having a

heart wound an amount of a thyroid hormone-lowering agent effective to decrease a level of a T3 or T4 thyroid hormone relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in a second euthyroid adult mammal to whom the thyroid hormone-lowering agent has not been administered, whereby healing of a heart wound in the first euthyroid adult mammal is increased relative to healing of a heart wound in the second euthyroid adult mammal. ~~The method of claim 1~~ further comprising the step of detecting increased healing of the heart wound in the first euthyroid adult mammal.

26. (canceled)

27. (currently amended) A method of increasing healing of a heart wound in a euthyroid adult mammal, comprising the step of administering to a first euthyroid adult mammal having a heart wound an amount of a thyroid hormone-lowering agent effective to decrease a level of a T3 or T4 thyroid hormone relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in a second euthyroid adult mammal to whom the thyroid hormone-lowering agent has not been administered, whereby healing of a heart wound in the first euthyroid adult mammal is increased relative to healing of a heart wound in the second euthyroid adult mammal. ~~The method of claim 1~~ wherein the level of the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone is decreased by at least 90% relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in the second euthyroid adult mammal.

28. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 27 wherein the level of the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone is decreased by at least 95% relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in the second euthyroid adult mammal.

29. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 27 wherein the level of the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone is decreased by at least 99% relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in the second euthyroid adult mammal.

30. (currently amended) The method of claim 27 wherein the level of the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone is decreased by at least 100% relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in the second euthyroid adult mammal.